



UNIVERSITE DE YAOUNDE I
.....
FACULTE DES ARTS, LETTRES ET
SCIENCES HUMAINES



THE UNIVERSITY OF YAOUNDE I
.....
FACULTY OF ARTS, LETTERS AND
SOCIAL SCIENCES



CENTER FOR GERMAN-AFRICAN SCIENTIFIC COOPERATION
ZENTRUM FÜR DEUTSCH-AFRIKANISCHE WISSENSCHAFTSKOOPERATION
CENTRE POUR LA COOPERATION SCIENTIFIQUE ENTRE L'AFRIQUE ET L'ALLEMAGNE
(DAW-ZENTRUM) YAOUNDÉ

INTERNSHIP REPORT AT THE DAW-CENTRE
FROM the 9th JULY TO THE 9th September 2014

Adresse : Université de Yaoundé I, Deutsch-Afrikanisches Wissenschaftszentrum
Tél : (237) 99 92 86 76
BP : 755 Yaoundé / Kamerun
Mobile : 00 (237) 71 10 21 33
Email : info@dawzentrum.org
Site web : <http://www.dawzentrum.org>

Written by:

HAMADOU NGOEI NDINGA NYADAO

Under the Coordination of:

Dr. Désiré TCHIGANKONG NOUBISSIE

September 2014

INTRODUCTION	3
I - GENERALITIES ON THE DAW-CENTER	4
II - PROGRESS OF THE INTERNSHIP IN THE DAW-CENTER	7
III - MY ACTIVITIES TO THE DAW-CENTER	7
IV) MY ACQUIREMENTS	10
V) THE DIFFICULTIES	11
VI) SUGGESTIONS	12
CONCLUSION	12

„The only way to overcome or at least to contain ethnocentrism is, according to me, the cooperative production of knowledge and the cooperative negotiation of intellectual instruments for the production of knowledge beyond barriers“¹

Introduction

The Dictionary Encarta defines the word Internship as « one period during which a person works in an enterprise to increase his professional knowledge or to form himself. »² it constitutes an indispensable element. It is a contact that allows the student to live the reality of the professional world. In the goal to prepare my entry in the active life, the DAW-Center allowed me to do an Internship of two months. This experience helped me to adapt and integrate myself within a team which gave me the opportunity to understand the notion of responsibility, the hierarchy and the respect of this latter. In this report, we will firstly describe Center and its activities. Then, we will approach the missions, namely the different realizations and the know-how that I have acquired during this Internship. Finally we will draw up the global balance of this Internship.

¹ Prof. Simo

² Encarta

I - Generalities on the DAW-Center

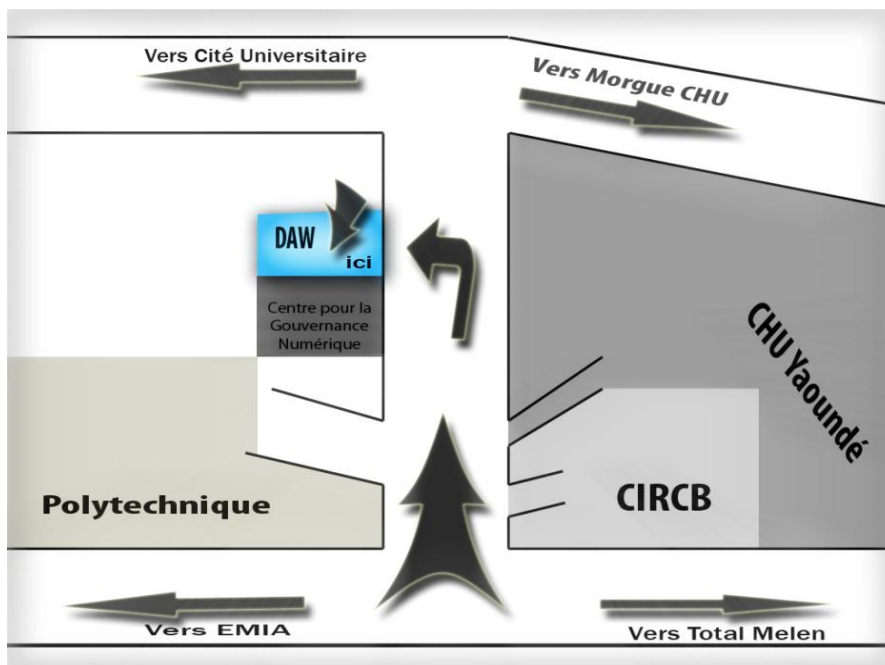
a) Localization of the DAW-Center

Country: Cameroon

Town: Yaoundé

Subdivision: Yaoundé 5

District: Mélen, right behind the Center for the Numeric Governance



Plan of Localization of the DAW-Center

b) Context of creation of the DAW-Center

The Center for the Scientific Cooperation between Africa and Germany of the University of Yaounde I in Cameroon is a new interface of connection for researchers, teachers and institute of research in the setting of the promotion of the scientific Excellency between Africa and Germany. The idea of the creation of a Centre for German-African Scientific Cooperation emerged in 2008 as Professor Simo, the Managing director of the Centre, was awarded the prestigious Reimar Lüst Prize of the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation. This Prize that is awarded by the Humboldt Foundation is funded by the Thyssen Foundation. The Thyssen Foundation explained to the laureate that the Prize should not only be seen as the climax and the completion point of his scientific carrier, but also as a start point, as the beginning of a new

scientific adventure. According to the Thyssen Foundation the prize should be considered as the beginning of an intense activity in order to promote science. With regard to the repeated demand to submit a project that can be funded by the Thyssen Foundation, Professor Simo explains that he considered most of the existing models in the field and submitted the project of the creation of a Centre for German-African Scientific Cooperation, which will be located in Yaoundé. A few months later he received a basic acceptance of the Thyssen Foundation that was ready to support the project. Considering the huge infrastructural problems that are specific to the African context, the Thyssen Foundation accepted on a Proposal of Prof. Simo to finance the Construction of a building that will host the Centre. In 2010 the German Foundation fully agreed to Fund the Centre. As the Rector of the University of Yaoundé 1 accepted officially to host the Centre as part of his institution and to locate it at the Faculty of Arts, Letters and Social Sciences, the Centre was definitely institutionally anchored in the University. The Managing Director of the Centre took the occasion of the first meeting of the Scientific Advisory Board to thank university authorities, particularly the Rector of the University of Yaoundé 1, the Dean of the Faculty of Arts, Letters and Social Sciences, the Direction of Infrastructure, for their incomparable engagement without which the Project of the Centre wouldn't have been possible. The construction of the building started in January 2011 thanks to the transfer of the necessary fees that was made possible by the German Embassy in Cameroon. The Construction is going on and the building will be ready within six months. Since the Centre is not an administrative but a scientific institution, the beginning of its functioning does not depend on the completion of the Construction. Therefore research started at the Centre since the rector sent a Letter of approval to the dean of the Faculty of Arts, Letters and Social Sciences in June 2010. The first and the following meetings of the Scientific Advisory Board are the testimonial of this Functioning.

c) The Objectives and Activities of the Center

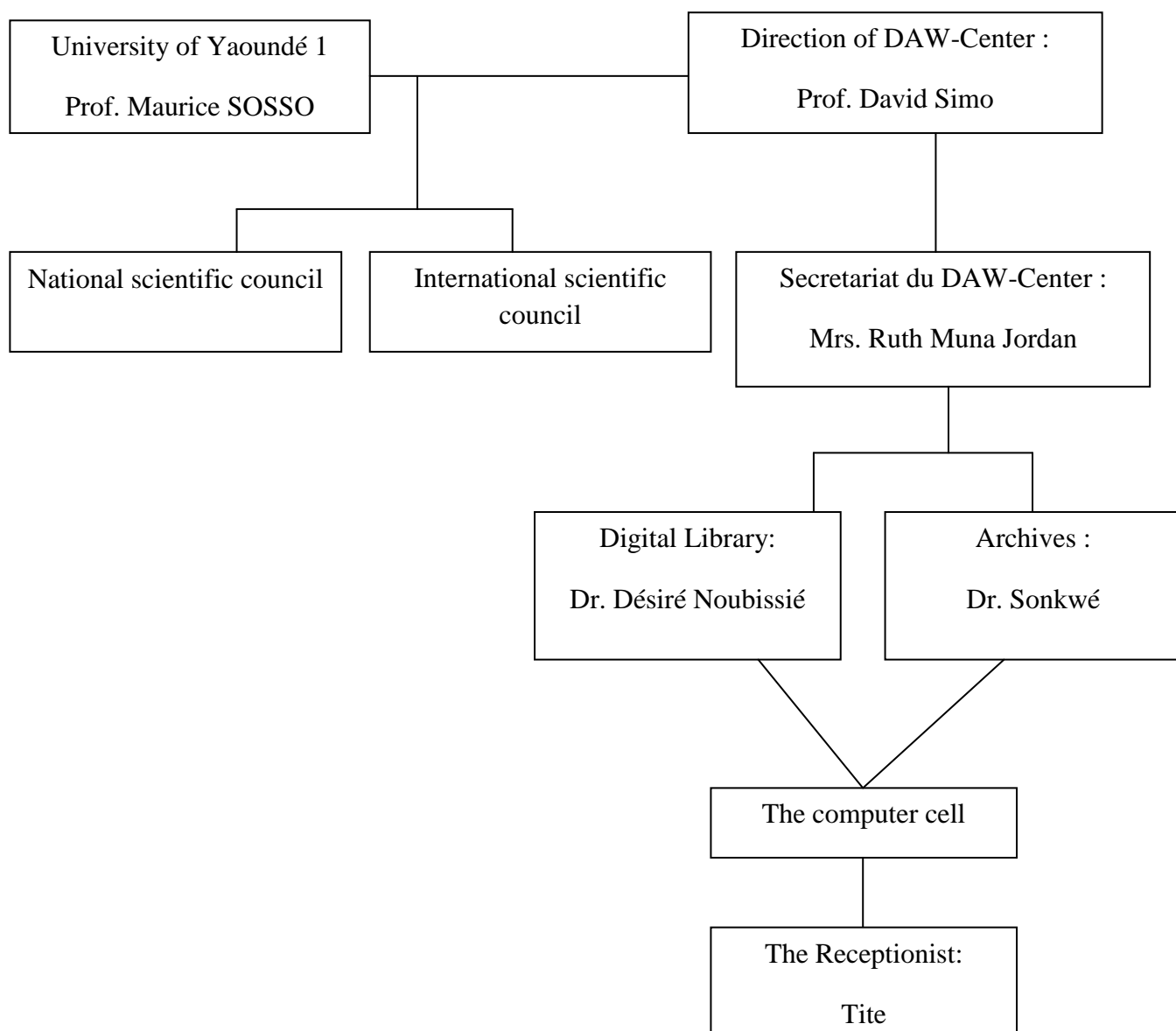
The DAW-Center makes in:

- The organization of seminars on the conception, the development and the management of the projects.
- The Promotion of the education from afar through the development of the E-Learning.
- The setting of work partnership between the African and German universities in order to facilitate the access to the various documents contained in the virtual libraries.
- The promotion of the excellence in the domains of research through various prizes and distinctions dedicated to the young gifted scientists (Studying and Teaching) and associating these young scientists in the various projects and programs of the Center.
- The organization of the workshops consisting to the formation of the young scientists.
- The organization of the seminars on the methodology of the conception and the writing of the scientific publications.
- The promotion and the animation of sciences and the culture on an international scale through the creation and the development of the germano-African interdisciplinary

research teams that could include the researchers of the other surely left from the world.

- Collection of the colonial archives available to Cameroon and in Germany and to put them at the disposal of the researchers and the interested public through the transcriptions and translations
- Organization of work in network between the German departments of different African universities.

d) Organigramme du DAW-Center



e) The partners of the DAW-Center

The international partners of the DAW-Zentrum are among others: the Foundation Alexander Humboldt von, The Fritz Thyssen-Foundation for the promotion of science, The German office of Academic exchanges (DAAD), the Goethe-Institute and the University of Leipzig.

II - Progress of the Internship at the DAW-Center

a) The 1st Day and the welcome

It was on Wednesday, 09 July under effervescence that the Coordinator Dr. Désiré Welcome us and made us visit the local of the Center. After having reread the files of candidacy of all trainees by turns, this last has according to the acquired experiences assigned a precise task to each of us in the waiting of the contact meeting with the Prof. Simo that had been fixed at 4p.m. This is how Dr. Désiré gave me forms of the Direction of training of the Canton of Zürich and assigned me to bring up them in French, English and in German. At 4p.m, started the meeting with Prof. Simo. He started with Welcome speech and gave the possibility to the different trainees to present themselves and to give their incentives in relation to the Internship. In continuation with the presentation of the trainees, the Professor took the speech while reassuring the trainees that they will get an attestation of Internship, but that they will have to write before a report of Internship. Except it, he insisted on the points as; punctuality, assiduity, rigor to work and cleanliness of the local. According to him, the Center promotes the excellence at all levels and one would not know how to work in the anarchy and the dirt" A sound minds in a healthy environment ". After this intervention, Dr. Désiré presented us by the slant of a PowerPoint presentation, the historic, the activities and the objectives of the DAW-Center.

III - My Activities at the DAW-Center

a) Works of investigating

During the meeting of contact, Prof. Simo asked the Dr. Désiré to involve us in the projects of the Doctoral school. This is how after one week of the beginning of the Internship, Dr. Désiré asked my team mate and I to count and to list all master works and thesis recorded at the Doctoral school and stocked to the media library of the German Department. This work consisted in collecting below as picture the data:

- The name of the candidate and his/her/its contacts
- The name of the supervisors
- The topic of the work
- The number of pages and volumes
- The date of the work deposit
- The Department

With these information and contacts, the Doctoral school could contact the candidates to have the numeric versions of their works and to publish them after. This task was not easy for us, because it was necessary to go from Department to Department, under an oppressive sun and without means of locomotion. In addition to it, it was necessary to show evidence of patience, because they had some Departments as the one of Linguistics, where the persons responsible were not at all cooperative and showed their animal instinct to our consideration. On the other hand we were well welcomed in some Departments like that of the Arts and Spectacles, of German and LMF. Here the secretaries that we found, showed evidence of generosity and were ready to place at our disposal all information that we needed.

b) Typing of Texts

The data processing was one of the activities having sprinkled my stay in the Center, because I had to seize texts of Cameroonian Researchers as illustration the article of Joseph Gomsu Problematic title" of the collaboration: the traditional chiefs of the South-Cameroon in the German colonial administration" This voluminous historic text of about 30 pages permitted me to review my knowledge on the German Cameroon of 1884 to 1916. Another text that marked me is the one of David Simo on the Problematic migrations. In this fragment, the eminent Professor analyzes the report between the culture and the migrations. Of a nearer look, he wants to show how the artists conceive their role in the different spaces that they browse: that it was about the space of their origin, of the transnational spaces. To support his argumentation he mentioned the case of several African authors of the diaspora as: Jean - Pierre Bokolo that lives in France and consider this country like an earth of receding. He often considers the United States like a place of meeting with oneself. Jacques-Greg Belobo exercises an art considered by many as non-African, namely the classic song, but his heart

remains installed deeply in Africa and all his projects are directed toward this continent. He is persuaded that this art qu'il knew how to master.

c) Scanning of documents

Among the articles that I have scanned and typed, I can mention:

- Migration heute und gestern, David Simo,
- *Welfengarten*, David Simo,
- *Deutsch-afrikanisches Jahrbuch*, David Simo,
- *Interkulturalität und Erfahrung ästhetische*, David Simo,
- Research award heart Prof Simo
- *Schreiben und Wortergreifung als Gegendiskurs*, David Simo,
- *Culture, Civilization and Human society*, vol.1, David Simo,
- *Subjektposition Kultur und im Zeitalter der Globalisierung*, David Simo,
- *Grenzgänger in der Literatur*, David Simo
- *Sport, Spiel und Leidenschaft*, Carlotte von Maltzan and David Simo,

d) relecture and the correction of the Texts

I reread the following documents:

- The End, Germany 1944-1945,
- The concept of the lasting development

e) Work Online

Among i have done:

- Research of the Information on the Interculturality, the Colonization in Africa

This work consisted of downloading on Internet all Pdf files that approach the questions of the interculturality and the colonization in Africa in English, German and French language.

- Publication of the photos of the colonial time in the colonial library

In the target to establish a colonial library, the Coordinator asked me to publish the pictures of the German Cameroon and their information on the website of the DAW-Center.

f) The Installation of Project of reinforcing of the logistical material of the DAW-Center

Following the failure and defaults observed in the logistics of the Center as:

- A number restricts computers for the Typing of the texts and research.
- An insufficient number of multifunctional printer for the impression of the documents; to the total 2 printers in the whole structure
- An insufficient number of Scanner for the scan of the documents
- A weak connection to internet, it slows down the animation of the digital library, the education from afar and the access to the on line documents.

Dr. Désiré that had made us a seminary on the installation of the projects, put me in charge of bringing up the project of reinforcing of the logistical material in order to improve the working of the DAW-Center.

g) Translation

Among the texts that I translated, I can mention:

- The forms of the Direction of the Canton of Zürich; I translated them in English and in French
- Wie der Subordinate t sprich? It is the Prof's article. Simo that I translated in French

IV) My acquirements

During my Internship at the DAW-Center, I acquired a lot of knowledge at several levels.

At the moral level

It is important to note that the rigor of the staff of the Center brought me to grant a great importance on punctuality. It allowed me to discipline myself and to respect the working hours especially as it was necessary to be very early at the Center (8 Hours) to begin work. Here, delay is not tolerated. So I learned to be rigorous in relation to the time and delays

At the axiological level

Speaking of the intellectual acquirement, I enriched my historic culture. For example when I seized the article of Joseph Gomsu on the Problematic of the collaboration of the traditional chiefs, I learned that they had of the chiefs who helped towards the establishment of the colonial authority and facilitated the task to the German colonists. To the instar of the Fon Galega of Bali, that has signed a pact of blood with Eugen Zintgraff von and delivered the workers often to the agents of the plantations against a sum of 300 Reichmarks. This article comes to reinforce my historic conscience that is according to Kuma Ndumbé an essential condition for the development of the African continent.

The Conception and the Installation of the projects made as part of the assets axiologiques. Indeed, I received training on conception and management of projects that opened my mind. This gave me the capability of setting up my own projects especially as we are in a world greatly influenced by the professionalization. This experience gave me to be able to put on foot of the projects for the auto-use and the embauchement of the other. So I discern this part of my Internship like an efficient struggle against poverty and unemployment for us the youth.

Technically talking, I won a lot during this Internship for what is of the improvement of the Typing of the texts and the treatment of texts. Actually, I saw a remarkable improvement in my manner of seizing documents with the use of Microsoft Word. This was helpful with the use an application software called " Rapid Typing" that the Coordinator installed in our machines so that one exercises itself. Apart from Typing, I equally taught to scan documents. It is for me a gain, because I was not able to scan even a page before, but today, I am capable.

V) The Difficulties

During this initiation to the world of work via my Internship, I have been confronted to numerous difficulties. One of these difficulties resides on punctuality. Besides, since one had finished with the end of year exams at the university, I felt the pain to rising up before 8 a.m. And it is only after numerous reprimands on behalf of the Coordinator that I could accustom myself at this hour. I encountered other difficulty such as problems of internet connection at the time of my work. Indeed, the internet connection was sometimes slow or interrupted and it constituted an enormous obstacle to the execution of some tasks. Added to this problem is the slowness of the machines which sometimes occurs when scanning a document.

VI) Suggestions

Due to the difficulties encountered during the Internship, I would propose the following measures for a better optimization of the results of the Center:

- Network problem should be solved in brief delay to permit a fast execution of work. One could install a better optic fiber therefore.
- The logistical material of the DAW-Center should be the subject of a backing.
- For those making work investigation in the latter, locomotion should be at their disposal since the DAW-Center is not near to the campus

Conclusion

At the time of this 2 months Internship, I could put in practice my theoretical knowledge acquired during my training besides, I confronted myself to the real difficulties of the work world. After my fast integration in the team, I had the opportunity to achieve several tasks that constituted a global Internship mission. Each of these tasks is useful to the service and progress of the activity of the Center, enrolled in the strategy of this one. I keep an excellent memory; it constitutes a valorizing and encouraging professional experience henceforth for the future. I think that this experience in enterprise offered me a good preparation to my professional insertion, because it was for me enrichment and complete experience. Finally, I am anxious to express my satisfaction to have been able to work in good material conditions and a pleasant environment.